

"Green Hill" Tobacco Barn
Virginia Road No. 728
Long Island Vicinity
Campbell County
Virginia

HABS No. VA-614

HABS
VA
16-LONI.V,
ID-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Eastern Office, Division of Design and Construction
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia 6, Pennsylvania

"GREEN HILL" TOBACCO BARN

HABS
VA

Location: Virginia Road No. 728, Long Island Vicinity,
Campbell County, Virginia

16-10N1.V,
ID-

Present Owner: L. H. Holland and brothers

Present Use: A portion of the structure is presently used by the owners as a tobacco barn. The rest of the building is unused.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION: "Green Hill" plantation was built by Samuel Pannill who first bought 600 acres from William and Moses Fuqua in 1797, and added to and developed the plantation till his death in 1864.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: This is an imposing stone building, part of an early nineteenth-century plantation. It is unlike most tobacco barns found in Virginia that are usually constructed of logs. Basically it has been altered little, but some important features are now missing. The stone and frame addition to the east, built across the entire east wall, is now in ruins, while other changes on the interior can be seen.
2. Condition of fabric: South stone wall is in extremely poor condition; wall failure can be expected at any time. Interior wood work is in excellent condition while exterior wood surfaces are in poor condition.

B. Technical Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: Approximately 50' x 65'; addition to east now in ruins about 22' x 65'.
2. Foundation: stone.
3. Wall construction: Field stone walls up to roof eaves with frame construction in gable ends and roof structure.
4. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: Two large entrances in north and south sides about 20' wide; no existing doors.
 - b. Windows and shutters: Four masonry openings with

wooden grilles in both east and west ends located in stone wall. Two of the four openings on each side have flat stone arches and are located about five feet from ground level, and the other two are located directly above--about twelve feet high at plate level. Seven window openings are located in the gable ends of both the east and west walls. These windows have original trim, but the sash is missing. There is no evidence of shutters.

5. Roof:

- a. Shape, covering: Low gable roof, flared up at the peak, presently covered with sheet metal.
- b. Eaves: Eaves are formed by an overhang of rafters covered with a fascia board. The gable ends are covered with verge board nailed over weatherboarding.

C. Technical Description of Interior:

1. Floor plan: Ground floor constructed on a three-bay plan. The center section, running east and west, is one large open space from ground level to rafters. At each of the four ends of the two outer bays is a windowless room about 8' x 12' and, citing tradition, used for the breeding of slaves.
2. Stairways: None--use of ladders noted.
3. Flooring: Dirt floor.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: Stone walls exposed on interior. Above head height in all bays are tobacco-drying racks made of round poles spaced two to three feet apart and spanning across the rooms. All of the interior members are original and in excellent condition. They represent a good example of hand craftsmanship in detail and construction. The center bay is still used for tobacco drying.
5. Doorways and doors: One masonry opening is located in each of the small corner rooms of the outer bays, closed by wooden gates. Another masonry opening, about 12' wide, is located in a stone partition separating the center bay from the two outer bays, both north and south sides; these are closed by modern wooden gates.
6. Trim: Interior wooden grille work located above masonry openings in masonry partitions.
7. Hardware: Wooden latches still intact.

D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: Gable axis is oriented east and west. The tobacco barn is situated in the plantation complex, on line with the stable, the carriage house, and the granary.
2. Enclosures: Modern wire fences.
3. Walks, driveways: Cobblestone drives lead toward the barn but the extent of their preservation was not determined. Other roads, not known to be original, give access around the barn. A cemetery, located north of the tobacco barn, contains rough field stones for markers.

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